

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 EUR-12 AID-05 NEA-10

EB-08 TRSE-00 /115 W

-----117335 212004Z /44

P R 211715Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAko

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8124

INFO USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BAMAko 5139

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV ML CU

SUBJECT: MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO CUBA

REF: HAVANA 0862

1. SUMMARY: COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DURING MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKHO'S VISIT TO HAVANA STRETCHES MALIAN POSITIONS TO FIT CUBAN MOLD. ALTHOUGH MALIAN POSITION ON PUERTO RICO PREVAILED, CISSOKHO SPECIFICALLY CRITICIZED U.S. FOR MAINTENANCE OF BLOCKADE. NO CUBAN DEVELOPMENT AID MENTIONED, BUT MALI GIVES FULL SUPPORT TO CUBAN HOSTING NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT, PROBABLY IN HOPE OF CUBAN HELP IN RETURNING MALI TO NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. MALI'S OFFICIAL DAILY L'ESSOR PUBLISHED DECEMBER 19 FRENCH FULL TEXT OF MALI-CIBA JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DURING MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKHO'S DECEMBER 8-12 VISIT TO HAVANA. THIS FIRST AND ONLY MENTION IN OFFICIAL MEDIA OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMUNIQUE. COMMUNIQUE WENT AROUND CONFIDENTIAL

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WORLD IN ESTABLISHING WHAT L'ESSOR DESCRIBED AS "A COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON THE BURNING PROBLEMS OF THE HOUR." IN VARIOUS GLOBAL SECTORS, COMMUNIQUE STRESSED FIGHT AGAINST "IMPERIALISM AND APARHEID" AND FOR "PEACE AND SOCIAL PROGRESS.". PRESIDENT CASTRO AND FOREIGN MINISTER MALMEIERCA ACCEPTED THE INVITATIONS OF PRESIDENT TRAORE AND FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKHO TO VISIT

MALI AT DATES TO BE FIXED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

4. CUBA. CISSOKHO REPORTED "PROFOUNDLY SATISFIED" WITH SOCIAL EDIFICATION OF CUBAN PEOPLE UNDER CASTRO'S LEADERSHIP. COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT CISSOKHO CONSIDERED THAT "THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CURRENT PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE RECOURSE TO MEASURES OF COERCION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, NOTABLY THE MAINTENANCE OF THE UNJUST BLOCKADE OF WHICH CUBA HAS BEEN VICTIM FOR 15 YEARS."

5. AFRICA. MALIAN DELEGATION EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR AID OF CUBAN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT TO AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BY SENDING DOCTORS AND "OTHER TECHNICIANS". THE TWO PARTIES NOTED SUCCESS OBTAINED BY "PROGRESSIVE" FORCES IN AFRICA, RECOGNIZED NECESSITY OF CLOSE COORDINATION TO COUNTER REACTIONARY PLANS AGAINST PROGRESS, AND RENEWED SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES OF NAMIBIA, ZIMBABWE, AND SOUTH AFRICA. MALIAN DELEGATION EXPRESSED "HIGH APPRECIATION" OF CUBAN PEOPLES' CONTRIBUTION IN THE AFRICAN FIGHT AGAINST COLONIALISM AND RACISM. COMMUNIQUE CALLED FOR RETURN OF MAYOTTE TO COMORES, REAFFIRMED RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN WESTERN SAHARA, AND SAID PROBLEM IN AFRICAN HORN CAUSED BY "IMPERIALISTIC EXPLOITATION."
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6. MIDDLE EAST. PARTIES SUPPORTED EFFORT OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL STATE, CONDEMNED ISRAEL FOR OCCUPATION BY FORCE OF ARAB TERRITORIES, AND REITERATED NECESSITY OF CONVOKING GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH PLO PARTICIPATING.

7. LATIN AMERICA. PARTIES "REDOUBLED SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES BRUTALLY SUPPRESSED BY FASCIST DICTATORSHIPS, NOTABLY IN CHILE," REAFFIRMED FIDELITY TO PERTINENT DECISIONS OF NON-ALIGNED SUMMITS ON SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO-RICAN PEOPLE, AND SUPPORTED STRUGGLE OF LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE TO EXERCISE SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATIONAL RESOURCES.

8. NON-ALIGNED AFFAIRS. MINISTERS SUPPORTED POLICIES OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND CISSOKHO PRAISED CUBAN WORK IN PREPARING HAVANA AS SITE FOR 6TH NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT.

9. ECONOMIC. MINISTERS DEPLORED INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS' BLOCKING ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMIC ORDER, DECLARED NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE A FAILURE, AND CALLED ON DEVELOPING PEOPLES TO UNITE IN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO ESTABLISH NEW ECONOMIC ORDER BY THEMSELVES.

10. WORLD AFFAIRS. PARTIES PRAISED ACHIEVEMENTS OF DETENTE, UNDERLINED THEIR PREOCCUPATION WITH "REACTIONARY FORCES" WHICH WOULD SLOW DOWN CONSOLIDATION OF DETENTE, AND SUPPORTED WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT.

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11. COMMENT. EXCEPT IN CASE OF PUERTO RICO, MALIANS FOLLOWED THEIR TIME-HONORED TRADITION OF SIGNING ANYTHING THEIR HOSTS PUT BEFORE THEM. AS A RESULT, MALI STRETCHED POSITIONS ON ISSUES LIKE WESTERN SAHARA, AFRICAN HORN, AND CUBAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS TO MEET CUBAN OBJECTIVES AND ESTABLISH "COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS." STATEMENT ON PUERTO RICO, HOWEVER, AVOIDS REFERENCE TO PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE, REFERRING ONLY TO SELF-DETERMINATION, AND CAREFULLY ALIGNS PARTIES WITH CONSENSUS OF NON-ALIGNED SUMMITS. THIS CLOSELY FOLLOWS MALI'S PRESENT POSITION ADOPTED FOLLOWING NUMEROUS U.S. PROTESTS OF MALI'S FORMER AGGRESSIVE SUPPORT OF CUBAN CALLS FOR PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE.

12. THERE IS NO MENTION IN COMMUNIQUE OF CUBAN DEVELOPMENT AID TO MALI. CUBAN PRESENCE HERE, DESPITE RESIDENT EMBASSY, IS MINIMAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE SO FAR NON-EXISTENT. PURPOSE OF CISSOKHO TRUP MAY WELL HAVE BEEN MORE POLITICAL THAN DEVELOPMENTAL.

CISSOKHO'S REFERENCE IN INTERVIEW (PAR 2 REFTTEL) TO
STRUCTURING OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE
REFERS, WE BELIEVE, NOT ONLY TO MALIAN SUPPORT FOR
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CUBAN LEADERSHIP BUT ALSO TO MALIAN HOPE FOR CUBAN
HELP IN RESTORING MALI TO A SEAT ON THE COORDINATING
COMMITTEE, A POSITION WHICH MALI, AS FOUNDING MEMBER,
HAD HALD UNTIL COLOMBO SUMMIT.

13. FULL TEXT COMMUNIQUE BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT.
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Message Attributes

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